ORDINANCE 2023-37

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE HEIGHTS, SO AS TO AMEND CHAPTER 236, ENTITLED "VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Seaside Heights, County of Ocean, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Borough Code of the Borough of Seaside Heights is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend Chapter 236 entitled "Volunteer Fire Department," so as to add § 236-6 which shall be entitled "Active Firefighter Incentive Program" and which shall read as follows:

A. Borough employees that become Active Firefighters on and after January 1, 2024, and attend not less than 45% of calls for service, meetings, drills, and mandatory special assignments during first 12 months of membership shall receive a \$5,000 one-time incentive. Employees shall be required to maintain active membership for three additional years. In the event the employee does not maintain active membership for a period of three additional years, the incentive shall be returned to the Borough.

B. Commencing January 1, 2024, all Active Firefighters shall receive a \$1,000 annual incentive after attending not less than 45% of calls for service, meetings, drills, and mandatory special assignments during the previous calendar year.

- C. Commencing January 1, 2024, all Active Firefighters that reside in and are owners of property located within the Borough of Seaside Heights and who attend not less than 45% of calls for service, meetings, drills, and mandatory special assignments during the previous calendar year shall receive a \$1,000 property tax credit annually. These Active Firefighters shall also be eligible to receive a waiver of the local portions of fees for certified copies of birth, marriage, civil union, and domestic partnership certificates; certified copies of death certificates; marriage, remarriage, civil union, domestic partnership licenses; certified property owners list; dog/cat license registration; zoning permit and building permits for decks, fences, sheds, finished basements, interior renovations, oil tanks, A/C units, and other accessory structures.
- D. The aforementioned incentives shall not apply to fire police officers.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

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SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect after second reading and publication as required by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed by the Borough Council on first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Seaside Heights held on the 21st day of November, 2023, and will be considered for second reading and final passage at a regular meeting of the Borough Council to be held on the 20th day of December, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., at the Council Chambers in the Borough Hall Complex located at 116 Sherman Avenue (aka 901 Boulevard) in Seaside Heights, New Jersey, at which time and place any persons desiring to be heard upon the same will be given the opportunity to be so heard.

DIANE B. STABLEY, RMC

Borough Clerk, Borough of Seaside Heights

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